

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Peter M.J. Mulier et al.

Serial No.: 10/014,388

Filing Date: October 22, 2001

Docket No.: P-8163.01 Cont 1 (M190.105.101)

Title: HELICAL NEEDLE APPARATUS FOR CREATING A VIRTUAL ELECTRODE USED FOR THE ABLATION OF TISSUE



IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 21 and 22 as follows:

1.-20. (Cancelled)

21.(Currently Amended) A surgical apparatus comprising:
a first coil and a second coil;
the first coil further comprising a first helical coil and the second coil further comprising
a second helical coil, the first helical coil and the second helical coil wound
parallel to one another;
at least one conductive fluid delivery opening configured for delivering a conductive
fluid to a tissue treatment site; and
the first helical coil serving as a first electrode of a bipolar electrode configuration and
the second helical coil serving as a second ~~electrode~~; electrode of the bipolar
electrode configuration, the first electrode and the second electrode configured to
apply electric current to the tissue through the conductive fluid.

22.(Currently Amended) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising a
plurality of conductive fluid delivery openings configured for delivering the conductive fluid to a
tissue treatment site.

23.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the plurality
of conductive fluid delivery openings are located along the length of the first coil and along the
length of the second coil.

24.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the
conductive fluid delivery opening comprises a hole.

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25.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the conductive fluid delivery opening comprises a slit.

26.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein at least one of the first helical coil and the second helical coil provides a fluid path therein.

27.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the fluid path provides the conductive fluid from a fluid source to the conductive fluid delivery opening.

28.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the conductive fluid delivery opening further comprises an electrode opening.

29.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the first coil is provided by a first needle and the second coil is provided by a second needle.

30.(Previously Presented) The surgical apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the first needle is hollow and the second needle is hollow.